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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, whose mercies are new every morning, we praise You for Your faithfulness. We exalt You with a rendition of the words of that wonderful old hymn, "Great is Your faithfulness! Great is Your faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies we see; all we have needed Your hand has provided. Great is Your faithfulness, Lord, unto us!"

As we begin this new day, we thank You for Your faithfulness to our Nation throughout history. One of the ways You express that now is through the labors of the women and men of this Senate. May they experience fresh assurance of Your faithfulness that will renew their faithfulness to be God-centered, God-honoring, God-guided, God-empowered leaders. In the quiet of this moment of prayer, grip them with the conviction that their labors today are sacred and that they will be given supernatural strength, vision, and guidance. Thank You in advance for a truly productive day. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 3210

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 252, H.R. 3210, the House-passed terrorism insurance bill; that all after the enacting clause be stricken, and the text of S. 2600, as passed in the Senate, be inserted in lieu thereof; the bill, as thus amended, be read a third time and passed; the motion to reconsider be laid on the table; the Senate insist on its amendment and request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses; and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate with the ratio being 4 to 3, without any intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, I came to the floor to make a speech and discovered that my leader is not here. But to protect leadership rights in this matter, I will object until leadership

has an opportunity to review the request made by the Senator from Nevada.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Madam President, there certainly is no surprise. We worked on this all day yesterday. We were told, as we are often told, that given a few more minutes, we will get it all worked out.

We need to have this terrorism insurance bill conferenced and completed. No one knows better than the Presiding Officer what the people of New York have gone through as a result of the terrorist acts of September 11. The people of this country and the businesses of this country need terrorism insurance.

Everyone should understand that on this side of the aisle we have done everything we can to get this passed. We were held up for weeks and weeks before we were allowed to bring it to the floor. Now we have been held up weeks and weeks to try to get the bill to conference.

It is too bad. There is a continuous pattern of obstruction that we have faced. Everyone should understand that terrorism insurance is being held up by the Republican minority.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, today the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 812, the affordable pharmaceutical bill, time until 10:30 equally divided between the two managers, Senator KENNEDY and Senator GREGG.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 5011

Mr. REID. Madam President, before my friend from Utah leaves the floor, I want to renew another unanimous consent request. I, along with a number of other people, were at the White House

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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